Plot to kill military observe

3815. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian arms has un covered the plot of Pakistan's ISI about the killing of the personnel of UN mili tary observers team deployed for India and Pakistan during their visit to Pak-occupied Kashmir;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MAL-JJKARJUN): (a) to (c) There is no authentic report with the Government regarding any plot on the part of Pakis tan's ISI for killing the personnel of UN military observers team. However, in their deliberate effort to blamo the Indian troops, Pakistan troops resort to firing during the visit of UNMOGIP observers to the areas near the Line of Control, from carefully selected positions giving semblance of the fire comingi from the Indian side. Pakistani troops take advantage of the configuration of Line-of Control and mountainous terrain covered with thick jungles, which makes it difficult to ascertain the direction of fire accurately discerned. In so far as oar troops are concerned, they have been given clear-cut directions not to retaliate or open fire during the scheduled visits of UNMOGIP observers even though there might be provocations from the Pakis tani side.

Steps to counter the Naval power of Pakistan

3816. SHRIMATI- KAMLA SINHA:
SHRI ANANTRAM JAISWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware -of the naval upgradation by Pak by acquiring modern systems and arsenal relegating the Indian Navy's striking power and posing a serious threat to the country;

(b) if so, whether Government have critically analysed the threat to the country from the aggressors from the Indian ocean; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to maintain a sizeable balance in the Indian Navy's striking power to meet any eventuality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRl MAL, L1KARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) All developmtr;:; having a bearing on the country's security are kept under constant observation by Government and appropriate counter-measures are initiated from time to time, to maintain defence preparedness. The Indian Navy is also re-equipped and modernised in keeping with the emerging threat perceptions.

Demarcation of boundary sinc*:* with Srilanka

3817. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government'- attention has been drawn to the news item pub lished in the Hindu, dated 1st February, 1995 attributed to the DIG Commander, East Coast Guard region;

(b) if so. whether the Coast Guard has taken steps to demarcate the international boundary line with Srilanka and inform the Indian fishermen not to cross that line for fishing; and

(c) what are the details of anti-social organisations indulging in illegal arms trading and fomenting trouble in India as mentioned by the Commander in that news report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The International boundry line with Srilanka has already been demarcated. Advising fishetmen not to STOss the TBL is primarily the responsibility of the State Government which has been requested to take the measures necessary

to avoid intrusion by Indian fishermen into Srilankan waters. The Coast Guard can only play a supportive role in discouraging Indian fishermen from straying across the IBL.

(c) As for the organisations indulging in illegal arms trafficking and fomenting trouble in India, LTTE has come to the notice of the Government to be indulging in such activities. This organisation has been declared as an unlawful one under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 from 14.5.92 for a period of 4 years.

Ordance factories

3818. SHRI MISA R. GANESAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to Btate:

(a) whether the Ordnanee Factories-aic in the state of closure due to insufficient demands/orders from Armed Forces;

(b) if so. the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that Ordnance Factories have been driven to take Civil Trade Orders from Public Sector Under-takings and Private Sector for optimum utilisation of facilities/capacities and infrastructure available with *them;*

(d) whether Ordnance Factories have been entrusted with New Projects:

i.e) if so, whether workmen would cope-up with work load;

(f) whether Factories/DGO A Organisa tions have been asked to show 10 per cent reduction in the pay roll and if so, whether it would create vacuum in the field; and

(g) if so, whether Government would issue orders to all the concerned De partments to stop the reduction in stren gth immediately as a first step?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRl MALLIKARJUN): (a) No Sir, The factories have been functioning normally; in fact, their sales to armed forces have been increasing.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The defence production units have established capacities to levels of demand in peace and war. However, peace time demand levels, as also budgetary constraints, result in orders from the armed forces which do not always match the production capacities established. For utilisation of the spareable capacities and skills, after meeting the requirements of defence forces, the defence production units undertake diversification go as to raise their turnover and productivity. Diversification also enhances their exposure to commercial industrial culture. ,

(d) Yes Sir.

(e) Selective induction of additional employees as also training of employees is undertaken to meet the requirements of new projects.

(f) No, Sir. However, rationalisation of strength to meet the changing requirement is undertaken.

(g) Does not arise.

Defence cooperation with Britain

3819. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the new international climate emerging with the end of the-cold war, Britain has sought greater defence cooperation with lndia through a. defence consultative group that has been proposed;

(b) if so, Government's reaction, thereto;

.c) the preparatory action being take towards the establishment of an Indo-British Defence Consultative Group; an*

(d) how far it is likely to go to improve the Indian defence capabilities? ,